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Virginia Highway Record Shows Improvement

Richmond, Va., Jan. 11—A spectacular reduction of about 12 percent in Virginia's 1960 traffic deaths was announced today by Colonel C. W. Woodson, Jr., Superintendent of State Police and Chairman of the Governor's Highway Safety Committee, as he set the score tentatively at 751 against the 1959 toll of 856.

Explaining the word "tentative," as used here, Colonel Woodson explained that a slight upward revision of all statistics might be expected due to late reports and deaths of persons now carried as injured, since such deaths revert to the date of injury for statistical purposes. Colonel Woodson said, however, that not more than five or six extra deaths could normally be expected. This marked the third consecutive year Virginia deaths have been reduced from the 912 of 1957.

In the light of a rise of about 1.8 percent in traffic volumes, he was certain that the lowest death rate (deaths per million miles of travel) would again be established and estimated it would be around 4.4 against an estimated national one of 5.3. He noted that the all-time high for Virginia was 24.2 in 1935.

Pedestrian deaths dropped from 171 to 156 to approach the all-time low of 151 in 1958. The record high was 343 in 1941. Deaths of servicemen were halved with 31 in 1960 and 62 in 1959. Here, Colonel Woodson had a word of praise for the comprehensive safety programs in force at many Virginia Military installations.

Crashes killing more than one person dropped drastically from 91 which killed 225 people in 1959 to 65 which killed 144 last year. "We were fortunate in this category," he observed, "and we cannot escape the fact that it contributed materially to our large reduction." He then explained that any factor causing a fatal crash can kill as many people as happen to occupy the involved vehicles but who do not contribute to the crash.

Crashes in which the vehicle had no contact with another vehicle fell from 307, killing 349, to 266 which killed 289. Urban deaths were up from 126 to 131 but this increase was heavily counterbalanced by a drop from 724 to 620 in rural fatalities.

"Virginia won the Grand Award of the National Safety Council for her 1956 and 1959 performances and is the only state to win it even once," he said, and asked for continued public support rather than complacency over this and the 1960 record.

"We are far from an irreducible minimum and those 751 deaths represents just so many tragedies which might have been avoided and which must be further reduced," he concluded.

Stonewall

Stonewall, Jan. 9 — I am sorroy it has turned cold again. Hope it won't last.

So glad to know Mr. and Mrs. Parks Jennings have returned home from their vacation in Florida.

Mr. Monroe Dysse has been called to Mobile, Ala., due to the illness of his father. We hope he will find him much better and soon be well again.

Hebron Church was filled to overflowing last Saturday afternoon for the wedding of Miss Winfred Lee and Mr. Earl Agee. It was a lovely wedding and we wish for this lovely couple a long and happy life together. They will live at Appomattox after a Southern honeymoon.

Mrs. Elsie Caldwell of Lynchburg spent the week-end with Mr. and Mrs. Jack Caldwell and Kathy.

Rev. Aaron Smith and his bride were the dinner guests of Mr. and Mrs. C. M. Stratton on Sunday.

Rev. Aaron Smith will show slides of his trip to the Holy Land on next Sunday night, Jan. 15, at 7:30, at Bethel Church, Everyone is invited to attend. If you haven't seen these pictures it is worth your while to see them.

Mrs. Henry Beard and Lawrence, Mr. and Mrs. Clayton Drinkard Sr., Mr. and Mrs. Clayton Drinkard Jr. of Lynchburg, and Mr. and Mrs. Howlette Drinkard Sr. of Beckham visited Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Chick over the week-end.

Mr. and Mrs. Parks Jennings joined Mrs. Alma Jennings and Mr. and Mrs. H. S. Jennings Saturday for a visit to Culpeper to see their stepmother, Mrs. Fannie Jennings, who has been ill for sometime. Glad to hear they found her better than they expected.

Mrs. J. H. Beard received word last week of another granddaughter born to Mr. and Mrs. Robert Beard at Lynchburg Hospital.

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Evergreen

Evergreen, Jan. 10 — Rev. V. L. Hudson is attending the Baptist State Wide Evangelistic Conference at Richmond Thursday and Friday.

Mrs. Pauline Glenn of Lynchburg and Mrs. V. B. Webb of Appomattox were luncheon guests of Mr. and Mrs. Ernest Farrar recently.

Mr. and Mrs. Witt Woodall of Lynchburg visited Mr. and Mrs. W. C. Garrett Sunday P. M.

Training Union boys and girls sponsored a social in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth St. John and sons during the Holidays.

Mrs. Jim Woolridge and Mr. Jack Morris are on the sick list this week. Hope they will soon be well; also Mr. G. W. Glover.

Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Lerner and son of Lynchburg and Mrs. Alberta Ferguson of Vera called in the home of Mr. and Mrs. C. J. Paulette Sunday P. M.

Mrs. Jesse Franklin and Mrs. C. J. Paulette were at Farmville shopping Tuesday.

Mr. and Mrs. Jack Hodge and daughters, and Mr. and Mrs. Courtney Franklin and daughter of Prospect were supper guests of Mr. and Mrs. Jesse Franklin and family last Thursday night.

Our Pastor, Rev. V. L. Hudson, taught a Bible Study Course last week. Studies in First Corinthians was the text. It was taught beautifully and we enjoyed studying together.

Mrs. Ethel C. Paulette is visiting her son and family, Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Paulette and daughters, Madison Heights.

Mr. Willard Paulette of Richmond spent the week-end with Mrs. Tilden Paulette.

Vera

Vera, Jan. 11—"Whosoever shall confess me before him shall the Son of man also confess before the angels of God." — Luke 17-1.

Well, the Holidays are over and children are back in school. Farmers are busy getting tobacco ready for market this pretty weather.

Mrs. T. C. Harvey visited in the homes of Mr. and Mrs. Richard Carson and Mrs. Willie Moses on Monday.

Mrs. Hall, Morris spent the holidays in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Dick Webb.

Rev. and Mrs. Marvin Jacobs are the proud parents of a baby girl.

The community was saddened by the passing of Mr. Reuben Bryant. He was spared a long life. Wish sympathy for his family.

Mr. and Mrs. T. C. Harvey visited in the home of Mr. and Mrs. Leslie Coleman on Wednesday night.

Mr. and Mrs. T. C. Harvey and Harriette visited in the home of Mrs. Mildred Warters and Mrs. Ada Gibson on Sunday.

EMBASSY POSTS TO RICH?

Unless President - Elect Kennedy can convince Congress that Americ can ambassadors need more expenso money, he'll hav, to fill some top diplomatic posts from the ranks of the wealthy.

It is generally known that ambassadors at major posts get $6,000 a year for entertaining and a house allowance ranging from $10,000 to $15,000 a year.

The yearly $6,000 put at their disposal at the beginning of the new fiscal year on July 1, usually lasts for four days — or until the traditional July 4 parties.

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